

Gifted Children

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Introduction to the Premier Issue

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GIFTED CHILDREN

An Electronic Journal of the AERA SIG Research on Giftedness and Talent.

Volume 1 Number 1 2006

Contents

Introduction

Jonathan A. Plucker 1

Article Reviews / Quick Hits

Jocelyn Holden 2

Redux—Neuroscience Meets Pedagogy: A Matter of Form and Implications for Gifted Education

Layne Kalbfleisch 4

A Discussion of a Book Review

Dona Matthews 6

How People Learn: Brain, Mind, Experience, and School: Expanded Edition

Dona Matthews 7

AERA Conference Highlights

Michael S. Matthews 8

Review of Gifted IQ: Early Developmental Aspects: The Fullerton Longitudinal Study

Matthew Makel 9

AERA Research on Giftedness and Talent

Newly Elected Officers 9

Working Committees 9



Introduction to the Premier Issue

Jonathan A. Plucker, Indiana University

Welcome to the premier issue of the Research on Giftedness and Talent SIG's new electronic journal. The idea of a new journal on giftedness and talent emerged from the SIG's meetings during Carolyn Callahan's term as SIG chair. Soon thereafter, the publications committee, which included Del Siegle, Dona Matthews, and myself, began planning for the journal.

We reached consensus on a number of issues, including that:

1. There is desire and support for a new, research-focused journal on giftedness and gifted education.
2. An electronic publication, perhaps distributed twice per year as a PDF, appears to be the most cost-effective option.
3. The content should be something for which there is not a clear home right now in existing journals within the field, such as policy studies, replication of previous research, evaluation studies, point-counterpoint, editorial/advocacy articles (i.e., strongly advocating for a specific point of view), and summaries of relevant research from other fields.
4. At the same time, the bias against electronic publication regarding tenure and promotion decisions will make it difficult to solicit research articles with the content mentioned above. Several SIG members also believe that, if presented well, such studies are publishable in our existing journals.
5. As a result, we suggested the following content for the first few issues: An "interactive" main article (interactive in that it is either a point-counterpoint or a main article with a respondent and a response to the respondent), an interview with a leading figure in gifted education (i.e., Five Questions With ...), an interview with a leading figure outside of gifted education (i.e., Five Questions on Gifted Education With ...), summaries of research articles related to the field but published outside of the field, a review of a classic article or book, and a brief section of interesting quotes, web links, and other useful information. Each issue could also contain summaries of conferences that feature content on giftedness or gifted education, such as AERA, APA, and NAGC, among many others.

You need chaos in your soul to give birth to a dancing star.

Nietzsche